

App. No. 10/729,601
Amdt dated June 20, 2005
Reply to Office action of March 18, 2005

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently amended) A roof bow comprising:
a longitudinally-extending monolithic member having:
a substantially vertical face, the substantially vertical face having a horizontally straight lower edge and a non-planar upper edge; and
a flange extending from the upper edge; wherein,
the upper flange is formed by bending, the upper flange comprising means for preventing the upper flange from wrinkling during the bending.
2. (Original) The roof bow as recited in claim 1, further comprising a flange extending from the lower edge of the vertical face.
3. (Currently amended) The roof bow as recited in claim 2, wherein the upper edge flange and the lower edge flange extend in the same direction.
4. (Currently amended) The roof bow as recited in claim 2, wherein the upper edge flange and the lower edge flange extend substantially perpendicularly from the vertical face.
5. (Currently amended) The roof bow as recited in claim 1, wherein the upper edge flange comprises at least one embossment.
6. (Canceled)
7. (Original) The roof bow as recited in claim 1, wherein the elongated member has a plurality of embossments therein.

App. No. 10/729,601

Amdt dated June 20, 2005

Reply to Office action of March 18, 2005

8. (Original) The roof bow as recited in claim 1, wherein the vertical face comprises a plurality of apertures.
9. (Original) The roof bow as recited in claim 8, wherein perimeters of the apertures are at least partially rolled.
10. (Currently amended) The roof bow as recited in claim 1, wherein the means for preventing wrinkling comprises at least one indented embossment in the top flange, the indented embossment extending at an angle to the longitudinal extent of the roof bow. ~~top flange comprises a plurality of indented embossments.~~
11. (Original) The roof bow as recited in claim 1, wherein respective ends of the roof bow each have an end cap extending from the vertical face.
12. (Original) The roof bow as recited in claim 11, wherein each end cap has at least one tab extending inwardly.
13. (Currently amended) The roof bow as recited in claim 11, further comprising a flange extending from the lower edge of the vertical face, wherein each end cap has two pairs of tabs extending inwardly, the upper edge flange fitting between one pair of tabs, the lower edge flange fitting between the other pair of tabs.
14. (Currently amended) A monolithic roof bow comprising:
a longitudinally-extending member having:
a vertical face, the vertical face having a horizontally straight lower edge and a ~~non-linear~~ curved upper edge;
an upper flange extending from the non-linear upper edge of the vertical face;
a longitudinally-extending lower flange extending from the lower edge; and,
at least one aperture formed in the vertical face.

App. No. 10/729,601

Amdt dated June 20, 2005

Reply to Office action of March 18, 2005

15. (Canceled)
16. (Original) The monolithic roof bow as recited in claim 14, wherein the top flange has a plurality of spaced-apart indented embossments therein.
17. (Original) The monolithic roof bow as recited in claim 14, wherein a perimeter of the at least one aperture comprises a rolled edge.
18. (Original) The monolithic roof bow as recited in claim 14, wherein the bottom flange has a return flange extending upward from the bottom flange, the return flange being spaced from the vertical face and longitudinally extending parallel to the vertical face.
19. (Currently amended) The monolithic roof bow as recited in claim 14, wherein the top flange has a return flange extending downward from the ~~bottom~~ top flange, the return flange being spaced from the vertical face and longitudinally extending parallel to the vertical face.
20. (Original) The monolithic roof bow as recited in claim 14, wherein the top flange and the bottom flange extend substantially perpendicular to the vertical face.
21. (Original) The monolithic roof bow as recited in claim 14, wherein respective sides of the vertical face each have an end cap extending from the vertical face.
22. (Original) The monolithic roof bow as recited in claim 21, wherein each end cap has at least one tab extending inwardly.
23. (Original) The monolithic roof bow as recited in claim 22, wherein each end cap has two pairs of tabs extending inwardly, the upper flange fitting between one pair of tabs, the lower flange fitting between the other pair of tabs.
24. (Original) A roof bow for a vehicle, comprising:
a longitudinally-extending monolithic member having:
a vertical face;

App. No. 10/729,601

Amdt dated June 20, 2005

Reply to Office action of March 18, 2005

a top flange extending from the vertical face;

a bottom flange extending from the vertical face; and,

end caps extending from the vertical face.

25. (New) The roof bow as recited in claim 24, wherein each end cap has at least one tab extending inwardly.

26. (New) The roof bow as recited in claim 24, wherein each end cap has two pairs of tabs extending inwardly, the top flange fitting between one pair of tabs, the bottom flange fitting between the other pair of tabs.